

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL February 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois was held, Monday, February 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jeff Grove presiding with proper notices being duly and continuously posted.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present - Mayor Grove, Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

Absent - NONE

A quorum was present.

Others Present: Finance Director John Duncan, Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, City Attorney Jim McPhedran, Econ. Dev. Director Curt Bedei, Director of Public Works Patrick Watson, Fire Chief Jerry Janick, City Treasurer Virginia Kochanowski, City Engineer Brian Brown, Police Chief Mike Smudzinski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held January 23, 2023. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION

Mayor Grove recognized the 7th Grade LaSalle Lincoln basketball team for an undefeated season. Mayor stated that the city and community is very proud of this group of young athletes and students. The sportsmanship was recognized by many in the community. Next year, this 8th grade team will be under IESA anticipating to go onto the state tournament.

Alderman Jeppson recognized the team also by stating that this team's level of sportsmanship, hard work, talent, and teamwork was very impressive. He truly enjoyed watching this team all year. He also pointed out that the entire basketball team is on the honor roll.

Finance Director Duncan wanted to add how impressed he was watching this team and their level of sportsmanship when they went up against his son's sixth grade team in a tournament.

Alderman Herndon asked Mayor if the City could get some sort of signage to acknowledge this teams' accomplishments.

Chief Smudzinski stated he is very proud hearing this about this group of students. They will remember this memory for a while. He has heard many good things about this team. They have been coached well and for all to be on honor roll is a double accomplishment.

PRESENTATION

City Engineer Brian Brown introduced Brad Brown of Brownfield Environmental Engineering. He was hired as the third-party consultant regarding Independent soil and water sample studies and related matters following the Carus Chemical fire. Mr. Brown has a degree from SIU as an environmental engineer. He started Brownfield Environmental Engineering in 2016. He worked with the Rockton Fire and LP asbestos removal.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Crane for Brad Brown of Brownfield Engineering to address the council in regards to the independent soil and water sample studies and related matters following the Carus Chemical fire.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

***ATTACHMENT B – Public Comment in regard to Carus Chemical Fire 1/11/23.**

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS:

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Crane to approve the request from Ameren Illinois to break ground at 706 Ninth Street to install underground electric service.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request for a 2023 Raffle License from the LaSalle Excellence Foundation.

Moved by Alderman Thomspson and seconded by Alderman Crane to approve all of the following raffle license:

- request for a 2023 Raffle License from the Peru Education Foundation.
- request for a 2023 Raffle License from the Lighted Way.
- request for a 2023 Raffle License from the Club 55.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to send the request from Brenda Witek of 437 Bucklin Street for a "No Parking from Here to Alley" sign in front of her residence to Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to start the process of annexation and to hold Public Hearing in regards to annexation and a public Hearing for the Planning Commission regarding rezoning of the petitions from the Streater Company, LLC. a/k/a Kotecki Group.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Economic Development Director Bedei mentioned that this has been a long, lengthy process to bring in parcels from the Kotecki Facility. He believes this will be a very positive plan moving forward with future development of their business and fabrication in north LaSalle.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept and place on file the Treasurer's Report for December 2022 showing total cash balances in LaSalle State Bank of \$13,970,196.79 and in Hometown National Bank of \$7,150,912.05

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept and place on file the Building Inspector's Report for January 2023 showing total fees collected of \$2,058.06 with total value of construction of \$1,526.049.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept and place on file the Monthly Police Income Report for January 2023 showing total fees collected of \$5,285.28

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

BIDS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to reject current bids for Chartres Street project.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to go with Tieman Builders for Project #1 of the 2023 Public Works Facility Renovations project.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding a request from Melissa Busch of Phelps Uniform for a Redevelopment Incentive Program grant totaling \$12,500 for premises located at 5 Polar Bear Drive.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Ptak mentioned that the council will pass on the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding the finances of the Celebration of Lights at this time until further discussions.

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve and authorize Pay Request #2 for Maxcor, Inc. Totaling \$445,840.65 for work completed to date on Civic Tower Painting project.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Bacidore asked for a request from Cory Dergance of 145 9th St. for a handicap parking sign to be referred to SAT committee in two weeks. It was mentioned that resident does have placard.

Alderman Lavieri asked for the Water Committee Minutes to be added to the next agenda for approval.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve a resolution for 2012 MFT Bond Re-payments for 2018 Tax Levy. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Ptak to approve a resolution for 2012 MFT Bond Re-payments for 2019 Tax Levy. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve a resolution for 2012 MFT Bond Re-payments for 2020 Tax Levy. Each and Every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve a resolution for 2012 MFT Bond Re-payments for 2021 Tax Levy. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Herndon to approve an ordinance confirming and ratifying approval of Industrial Pretreatment Program Enforcement Response Plan. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Alderman Lavieri asked about criteria for this approval. Attorney McPhedran stated that the city already has a pretreatment ordinance and this is an enforcement response plan. The EPA has this enforcement response plan also to be approved and ratified through the city council. Attorney McPhedran also stated that the final form of this was approved by the US EPA after numerous revisions.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve an ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District Redevelopment Agreement by and between The City of LaSalle, LaSalle County, Illinois and Phelps Uniform Specialists, Inc.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

COMMENTS

There were no more questions or comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept, pay, and place on file bills for February 6, 2023 with Total Submitted: \$722,259.17 (Total Payroll \$189,695.52, Bills to be Paid \$212,460.77, Total Bills Paid \$320,102.88).

Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Crane to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNED

9:06pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Amy Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Quinn, City Clerk

Mr. Brad Brown - Brownfield Environmental Engineering

He started by thanking Brian Brown for the nice introduction. He mentioned how his company is based out of Beloit, Wisconsin. He mentioned that he has been doing a lot of work in the area, especially recently with LP High School for the last 10-15 years. He has managed all the asbestos and hazardous materials involved with the remediation projects and renovation work. His team of engineers provide environmental consulting services to municipalities, government agencies and private sector clients in the areas of soil and groundwater contamination and remediation air quality compliance, mold exposure assessments, environmental permitting, remediation, asbestos and lead testing, abatement management and waste management associated with large scale demolition remediation projects. His company does have a background in soil and groundwater especially. The city of LaSalle has asked him to work with them as an independent consultant to provide an objective opinion in reviewing the effects of the recent Carus Fire and local residences and parks near their facility which have been affected by the fire. He read a statement from his company: "Brownfield does not have any connection to Carus or the IEPA in regards to the cleanup and the work that they're doing up there. Carus has not been a client of Brownfield in the past, and we've had no business dealings with them, directly or indirectly."

He mentioned that they do have one current employee, Paul Scott, who had worked previously for Carus, approximately four to five years ago. Mr. Scott has no connection with Carus currently, and it was only involved in the initial soil sampling that they did. He did have some local knowledge of things and so he participated to help Brown take some of the samples. He did not have any involvement in the drafting the summary report or its findings. His role with the company is that he is one of the field technicians and is often out on site, doing soil sampling and observations on some of the DOT projects.

Mr. Brown read through his report that has been provided to the City of LaSalle.

***ATTACHMENT C**

**Soil & Water Sampling Report
For City of LaSalle, IL
Carus Chemical Co. Fire Precipitation
Date: February 3, 2023
Brownfield Project No 141-002**

Mr. Jaime Hicks asked Mr. Brown if he had the numbers back on the granular material that was collected from 1409. Brown did not have that in his notes so he did skip over it when discussing the results. Brian Brown mentioned that it was in their original rough draft. Mr. Brown found the lab results and are listed under 1409 Porter-1. The manganese was 276,000 mg/kg and potassium was 133,000 mg/kg.

Deputy Clerk Bader mentioned that this report will be available on the city's website.

Bader also mentioned how he has been in communications with the managers of Red Alert.

They have discussed why certain people did not receive those messages when they were sent out. They stated that the system was designed to shoot out as many messages as possible in the shortest amount of time to get the information out there as quickly as they could. The company expressed that the calls are possibly getting bunched up. The company recommended that the city elongates the length of time that the responses are going out, to get more of the calls through. The city has now extended that period of time by which those messages go out. There will be fewer of them going out at once. Bader's recommendation would be that the next time that the city does an all-call, they will put something on Facebook and the website saying that the city put a call out and if one hasn't received it, to reach out to the city.

Hicks asked why the city could not just use the emergency alert system. He feels it would go to every cell phone, anybody in the area, in case of a disaster.

Bader mentioned that LaSalle County has reached out and offered to use that platform in the future.

Brian Brown mentioned to Brad Brown that when they did the granular sample, it was logged on the soil sample report and I think it got missed as a separate page when logging the final draft of the full report. They both discussed that the granular was not a true soil sample. They wanted to log the soil samples on a separate page, the water on a separate page and the granular on a separate page.

The granular was collected by Hicks, resident at 1409. The granules were the pure product that went up into the air during the fire. It is pure potassium permanganate.

Resident asked Mr. Brown to repeat the numbers from the granular lab results. The manganese was 276,000 mg/kg and potassium was 133,000 mg/kg. Another resident asked what the safe range is of the manganese. Brown stated it was 1,600 mg/kg in the soil and 0.15 in the drinking water. Engineer Brown mentioned that all these numbers are in the report.

#1 - Linda Battaglia - 1446 Porter St.

Battaglia asked Mr. Brown if they have done a study on the grass for any animal that may ingest that. He stated that a study has not been done. She also asked if further testing is needed on or in the runoff of the gutters.

Brown stated that he can speculate about that a little bit. Brown was hired by the city to look at specific parameters. He stated that one can read the Safety Data Sheets to tell them how to safely handle those granular materials. He mentioned how the water that was collected was elevated a little bit. The levels read at .85 and safe drinking water is .5.

Hicks is a little unsure on what to believe about the pooled water in the yards. Residents were told to not allow animals to drink pool water in yards. But have also been told the whole time that their animals were fine. However, the granular number came back very high and it fell onto

the yards. The yards in this neighborhood do not drain due to the "EPA packing clay" in them. Hicks believed that Chief Janick should have tested the product falling with a chemical test that he believed that he would have had on his truck.

Battaglia hopes that someone can look into the ingestion of these materials. She is not comfortable enough yet to bring her pet home.

Brown also mentioned that rainwater and snow will definitely dilute the materials massively.

Battaglia asked if any testing was done on the home products that were extremely covered. She asked if these products should be disposed of a certain way within the municipality.

Brown stated that they did not test siding or roofing materials.

She is asking for home materials to be tested to make sure that it's safe to properly dispose of.

Resident asked if Carus was taking things to the landfill.

Brown heard they were hauling materials off site going to a landfill, but he was not involved with their disposal.

Mayor Grove mentioned that the City has insurance papers for those who have had damage done to siding, roofing, gutters, downspouts, and fascia. This may be a question for Carus since they are hiring contractors for these repairs.

Battaglia submitted their information for how often they had cleaned their cars. They also had to send both vehicles to Ziebart because of their diamond gloss protection. They submitted all their paperwork to Carus for that. Carus, however, has been stonewalling them on the items like the downspouts and siding. They also had \$1,000s of dollars worth of cement damaged. State Farm did say that they would be taken care of. They would be hiring their own contractors, so she still finds it socially responsible to do the right thing.

Mayor Grove suggested to those that can hire their own contractors to make sure those contractors put into their bid a quote from the proper disposal of home materials. Battaglia believes that the residents need to be responsible as a team as to where this material goes.

Mr. Brown wanted to discuss the disposal of any building materials with this residue. Brown did mention that there would not be a huge health risk on the building materials, but the contractors should be made aware of it. Brown also mentioned that it wouldn't hurt to get some wipe sampling to make sure that they're not getting exposed and just to protect the workers also. He mentioned that this is what landfills are for, to dispose of products. Landfills are lined and monitored.

Battaglia did ask if it was necessary to wear masks to cut their grass in the spring or even on

these nice 40 degree days, even though the ground is deemed appropriate.

Brown stated that he was only able to answer on the soil samples and grass that was collected. Brown suggested doing some more grass samples to help put the residents at ease. He did mention that the samples that were collected, including the grass and the soil samples, did come back lower than the cleanup objective. These were substantially lower than the IEPA levels. He did want to clarify that it was not just a true grass sample. They could do additional testing of the grass.

Bader mentioned that those impacted by this would get a hard copy of this report. The city will go door to door and get them to mailboxes.

Battaglia did ask if someone could please find out the ingestion ratio, especially for their pets.

Alderman Crane asked if this was something that the city could do again soon or in two weeks. He hopes that dilution is the solution, but maybe the city could still test and monitor at the same sites or even different sites.

Battaglia asked if someone could test the level in the downspouts and where water may be sitting and collecting.

#2 - Jaime Hicks - 1409 Porter St.

Mr. Hicks mentioned that Rockton has special contractors assisting with their cleanup and maybe that is something the city could look into. He mentioned how these materials have made it into their homes and that home air filters are black. He is also concerned with his property value, not only were they part of a Superfund site, but they now have elevated levels and are contaminated.

He believes that this had been downplayed on 1/11. He is unsure as to why no one was looking into the "green purple stuff falling from the sky." He also wanted to know why the "Shelter in Place" was put into place one hour and 15 minutes after the fire. He felt a good precaution was to have everyone evacuate.

Hicks stated that the granular materials fell on him and is going to a toxicologist to get tested out. He is upset with Carus Chemical, being the maker of this product, but was unable to inform the city that they were in trouble when this material fell.

Hicks also mentioned Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, sections 302 and 303, 311 and 312 are laws that are put in place for chemical plant emergencies in the community right to know what is in their plants. Someone has failed the city and he does not want this to happen again. He believes that Carus should have had a plan not only with LaSalle, other local area emergency agencies. Hicks stated that 4 of the 43 chemicals housed in Carus on a list from the Department Homeland Security chemicals of interest.

Hicks mentioned the Apollo warehouse located behind his home. This warehouse is located at

1439 Porter Avenue, and not even located on Porter Ave. The County has it taxed as a vacant building. He claims that it is a tier two chemical storage facility. He has sent numerous emails and pictures to city officials and Carus chemicals and claimed no responses. He believes he was right that they have been hauling "this toxic poison." He stated that the Newstribune mentioned this product back in 2017. Hicks questions how this building even got a permit deemed to become a tier two chemical storage facility and who at the city approved it. He placed a call to the Ottawa Fire Chief because he was concerned that they were hauling there. Hicks filed an incident report with the EPA. He has been informed that the place has been shut down and semis will no longer be going down his road. His state representative has been the only person helping him get answers.

Mr. Hicks believes the EPA is dragging their feet. He is also unsure how they cleared the scene and stated it was clear of hazards. He does not know how they did "air swab soil samples" and get their results back so fast, but residents are still waiting for their results. He does not feel safe in his own home or for his dogs to be outside. He mentioned a dead deer being found in his neighbors yard. He put the deer in the back of his truck to go get tested. He is concerned for the emergency personnel that are unaware of what is in the abandoned building. Hicks states that he has been concerned with the semis that have been running up and down his road for years to that building. He lives on a two block, dead end and there should not be all those semis. He believes the mayor has deterred from the concern of what has been in that building. The city did put a "truck route" sign in his yard, with no explanation. He believes that the city has covered up for Carus the whole time.

#3 - Brianne Hicks - 1513 Zinc St.

Ms. Hicks brought her air filter from her home for all to see. Hicks had a question pertaining to her yard that was part of the Superfund site. Her yard had been tested and her yard does have those levels previously. It is on the list for cleanup but she hasn't heard back from EPA since 2020. She questioned what the manganese did to her soil that has already had a certain level of manganese in it. She has not received a date back for remediation, but the rest of the block has been done.

Mayor will look into this for Ms. Hicks. She purchased her home in 2020 and had her soil tested in September of 2020. She was aware of this when she purchased her home.

Alderman Crane stated that their neighborhood did receive letters in the mail to show their homes level but never states where they are on cleanup.

Ms. Hicks was curious as to how the areas were selected for the third party testing. She wondered why it was not mentioned to everyone who lived in the area for testing samples.

Mr. Brown mentioned that his testing was meant to gather some initial data, They felt all the area parks were good public spaces to get raw data from. They also looked at some other addresses that were representative of the plume. Emergency Management did create diagrams of the plume, including wind direction, and were used as a guide as well when making this decision of homes to test.

Ms. Hicks asked if the residents could request for their yards to be tested at this point through this agency.

Mr. Brown mentioned that he is working for the city and he could talk with the city to find this out for residents. He did mention that manganese is a naturally occurring component of the soil and compared those levels with background levels too. He mentioned that manganese is all over the place, even around places that didn't have a chemical plant or any incident.

Mayor mentioned that the city will test Ms. Hicks' yard for her.

Ms. Hicks asked how the city can tell them that they are safe.

Deputy Bader responded by stating that he personally can not tell anyone that they are safe. What the city can do is provide the experts, like Mr. Brown, the EPA, IEPA, IDNR and share all the conversations that the city has with these groups. The city relies on them to give the city and its residents accurate, professional information. None of these organizations that the city has spoken with has mentioned a significant issue to be aware of right now. If this was mentioned there would be more that the city would be doing. The city of LaSalle can't tell anyone that they are safe. The city is relying on the studies and the organizations to share all this information so they can pass it on to their residents.

Engineer Brown mentioned that the city and the 3rd party went off of the area they thought were most heavily hit. If the city had outliers and high levels in some areas, they were going to narrow down the testing even more. But since the city took many samples from the plume area and they reached about half of the remediation levels, the city didn't see it necessary to test further. If the city had more areas of high concentrations, they would do more testing to kind of narrow down further.

Ms. Hicks asked if the city knew the impact of the plume and the radius of the area.

Deputy Clerk Bader mentioned that he believed the EPA had posted a plume map on their website.

Engineer Brown did ask for the EPA to have a group of knowledgeable people to walk the neighborhoods and identify the areas with the stain concrete and to look for the true tell signs that there was something going on.

Bataglia mentioned that last meeting, she asked about creating a group email correspondence for this core neighborhood that was affected. Bader mentioned that when he does go door to door with the study packets, he will include a card indicating to email him for any future updates. Bader mentioned that the full 50 page study will be on the city's website.

Hicks shared with the council her air filter that was changed in a 30 day period and it is visually black. She is concerned with this because they were all told to stay home, but seeing this air filter, it wasn't the safe option knowing that potentially everyone was breathing this in. She is

concerned with the chemicals that are coming into her home and what she should be doing about that.

Bader responded by saying that this would be a question for the EPA. Bader offered to forward any pictures or questions if residents have not received word back from EPA after making attempts.

Mr. Brown is going to take a piece of Ms. Hicks' filter and have it tested. Hicks will take the remaining filter and her dad plans on getting it tested elsewhere.

Ms. Hicks did thank City Engineer Brown for his prompt response to her questions and email. He asked if she had a test from the EPA back stating that her yard would be remediated. She confirmed that she did receive that letter. Brown mentioned that they did have contractual issues and they are planning on doing over 200 sites this year. Hicks mentioned she has yet to hear anything from the EPA since point 2020. Brown has her name on his list to call the EPA to verify that she is on their list.

Hicks questioned were residents should be going to receive any updated information. Bader mentioned that the city will post any updates on Facebook and social media, but there has not been any significant updates. He also mentioned that he will make the full study available online and shared with necessary parties once a few grammatical errors have been corrected.

Brian Brown mentioned that he did share the results with EPA, so the city and EPA could compare pre-fire versus after, but he believes that most of the yards tested had already been remediated.

Hicks did ask about how often the city plans on doing follow up testing. She is also very concerned with the wildlife.

Alderman Lavieri asked if the city could get a Conservation Officer to pick up the deer from Hicks. He said he waited 10 hours and he decided to put it in the back of his truck.

Mayor stated that the city could commit to doing the testing that they did with Brad in about 3 months.

Mr. Brown mentioned that he will cut a piece from Hicks' air filter after the meeting adjourns.

Mrs. Battaglia asked if the city would be able to charge Carus for the third party testing. She does not want the city to incur any more fiscal responsibilities. City Attorney McPhedran stated that this will be investigated

#4 - Dawn Hicks - lives about four blocks west of Carus.

Mrs. Hicks stated that she was home with her 16 year old daughter that day who had just had hip surgery the day before. She felt that more steps could have been taken to ensure, not just

guess or assume, that the residents were safe. She also asked the fire chief if the department did have a list of all the chemicals that are at Carus. He stated that they did have a list. She mentioned that the chemical dispersed was a very noticeable, bright purple. She questioned how Chief Janick did not know what was being burnt in the fire that day. He stated that he did not recall saying that he didn't know what it was.

Mayor questioned Mrs. Hicks with what she was asking from the chief. He did a great job that day and they relied on Carus to get them the information on what was in there.

Mrs. Hicks asked if there is or was a city wide plan in place for such an event. She was curious as to what would determine for residents to evacuate or to stay in place. Chief Janick responded by saying that an evacuation is very labor and time intensive process. If the city were to tell residents to evacuate, the first thing the city would need to do is to provide everyone a place to go. This incident, the fire, was a relatively short term event. Chief understands that this is a longer term incident now for the residents, but it was a short term incident at the time.

Mrs. Hicks' other concern is the Apollo. She would like to know why Carus was even allowed to store things in a building with a gigantic hole in the roof and boarded up windows. She has videos and footage of semis leaving with "massive amounts of chemicals" and zero placards. She is also unsure as to why the police were not addressing what would have been a traffic violation when a truck is not properly labeled with their placards.

Chief Mike Smudzinski mentioned that his officers can not just stop a truck. The state police do have people that can do truck inspections.

Mayor Grove stated that all are aware that they were using that building as a warehouse.

Hicks mentioned that she saw a LaSalle Police Department vehicle and a semi right behind it. They stayed at the gated area while the truckers were loading up. She is unsure why the officers were not doing anything about the trucks and just escorting them in and out.

Chief Smudzinski stated that his officers were not there to inspect the trucks. He only had officers there to "keep the peace."

Hicks is concerned because if there was potassium permanganate in that building, it is supposed to be in a well ventilated area. That warehouse does not have the proper ventilation or sprinkler system.

Chief Janick asked if the Hicks was aware of the products that were in that building.

Mr. Hicks stated that Officer Zebron was in that building and Hicks claims that he also heard what the guy told him what they were hauling out of there, Potassium permanganate and other chemicals in the building.

Dawn Hicks is concerned that the Mayor does not know what is in this building. Grove stated that he will be talking with the city attorney to find out what the city should and should not have access to.

Attorney McPhedran stated that the County has gone in and inspected the Apollo. They did inspect it on Monday, January 30th.

Mayor Grove stated that when and if Carus does start using that warehouse again, he will make sure it is placard. Mayor stated that at the next council meeting in two weeks, he will have an update on that building.

#5 - Dina Hicks - spouse to Jaime Hicks, resident at 1409 Porter.

Mrs. Hicks mentioned working in healthcare and having to do training and drills for certain situations. She asked if the city of LaSalle had had these sorts of drills with Carus. She is unaware as to how it "snowballed" into nobody knowing anything and then immediately everything was okay. She also wanted to know what the city council is for and what the residents should expect from them.

Mayor Grove did a little recap of the Carus fire incident. Fire was on January 11. One hour and 15 mins, the city was still trying to gather information, survey the scene, get a hold of Carus officials, and find out what's going on. He emphasized that everyone got out safely. The city also did want the right people on site to try to find out what the product was in there. The city was at that point, still working with Carus, and simultaneously trying to clear the area and to address the fire. The city was working with Brent to get the information out. The Mayor believed that the Chief was proactive by declaring the shelter in place within an hour and 15 minutes in. The city was trying to get information about the concentration levels in the air, and whether it is toxic or not. By the 4:00 pm press conference, the city had a press release, the city had the US EPA and the EPA. The city was relying on the information from the professionals. Before the 4:00pm news conference, the Mayor asked if people can go outside and if they can walk their dogs. Mayor said that the Carus guy told him yes. And that was enough for the Mayor to feel comfortable. He is going off of what the professionals said. The US EPA was only in town for about an hour and a half before the 4:00pm news conference. The city held the follow up meeting the next day at two o'clock to try to have a few more things dialed in. Mayor pointed out that the city reached out to Rockton and Morris in regards to what they did with their incidents. Attorney McPhedran suggested hiring the 3rd party firm to come to the town also to do some research. The city wanted that 3rd party to come in to make sure there was no cover up. The city will take care of a few more tests for residents. If a resident is still not comfortable with what they have heard, the mayor suggested hiring their own personal firm and get more testing done, and then submit an insurance form to Carus. The city is trying to be that bridge for the residents but unfortunately the city is not going to have all the answers. Mayor mentioned how the City of LaSalle basically offers a town hall every two weeks for their residents to speak and feel comfortable and give answers. The city will help out and try to get the residents to the right people to get their questions answered. Mayor thought it was a great idea that the city could form a little email group to email out when new information comes up. Mayor also mentioned

that the city does have an action plan. He is hesitant to make this public knowledge as there are secondary and tertiary places for places like a command center. Mayor does feel pretty comfortable with the report and with the concentration that is in the yards and in the water. Mayor reminded the audience that the council is here to help get answers but they are not going to have every answer, every time. The council is here to help put residents in the right direction. Mayor's interpretation from the report is that the area is in the safe zone. Mayor did mention that the city will check in with that same area in a few months to retest air and water.

Mrs. Hicks asked if the city would be able to test the soil where the roof runoff goes down the downspout and into the grass.

Mayor agreed to do so. Alderman Thompson did mention that many are concerned about the roof runoff. He also agrees that it should be tested for the residents. Mayor wants to help the residents to allow them peace of mind.

Alderman Reynolds stated that this made him aware of all the chemicals in his homes and residents should check their homes and garage to make sure all chemicals are stored properly.

#6 - Cam Reisdal - 1419 Porter Ave.

Cam first wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for the report and attempting to answer as much as they can. He understands that many of these questions and his needs to be directed to someone else, but appreciates the city in trying to get the right people to answer those questions. His one concern is that they only tested for the one chemical that they reported, when he believes that they should be testing for all the chemicals that were available in the area that the fire happened. He has been part of hazmat cleanups at places that he has worked. There have been other chemicals that have "got caught up" in incidents when they originally assumed it was only a certain chemical or product.

Mayor mentioned that the city was told that in that part of the building where the fire occurred was where this product was stored.

Cam understands that the more one adds water to a solution, the more it will dilute it. He asked what can be done to remove the manganese from the area because there's drainage issues with the cleanup. He wants the manganese to be addressed because of the long term neurological issues that he said can be associated with this product.

Mayor mentioned that the holding ponds on Carus Chemical will have to be treated with a portable water treatment plant. They will process it right there on site and put it into city sewers at an acceptable rate.

Riedesel is not necessarily concerned with the holding pods. His concern is from the product that landed on the roofs, because of some form of manganese, and some of this is on property and in stagnant ponds. This is where it possesses a risk and long term exposure. He also would like to have someone find the cause of the deer.

Engineer Brian Brown mentioned to Mr. Hicks that the DNR is picking it up tomorrow and the biologist is gonna test it for chronic wasting and for toxicity.

Mrs. Walters asked if the deer can be tested ASAP because there is only a certain amount of time from time of death and testing to get results.

Riedesel asked Chief Smudzinski who is in charge of enforcing CDL violations. Riedesel mentioned certain criterias for placards: Material, chemical, weight. He claims that all trucks are required to have it. Riedesel mentioned a police officer being onsite and wasn't sure who is responsible for enforcing those violations.

Chief Smudzinski mentioned that the officer was not there for the inspection of the trucks, but was there for a separate issue. He mentioned that the USDOT and State Police are the ones that check for such violations. He did mention that if his officers did make a traffic stop with probable cause, his officers are not trained to do a truck inspection. Smudzinski stated that if there was a problem with a traffic stop and a vehicle code violation, they would probably be calling the state police or the USDOT, if they felt it necessary.

Riedesel is unsure as to why the police officers are not contacting the next channel to have somebody address these trucks that are not placard.

Chief Janick explained that DOT requirements go by product and weight. The truck may not meet that threshold and may not need that placard.

Riedesel asked if the city could go through the proper channels and figure out any violations once a report comes back on what was stored in the Apollo building. He believes that it would go a long way for the residents to see action taken on those who allowed the blatant improper use of placards.

A Resident explained that the placards are for first responders and they are the ones at risk when not placarded.

Riedesel understands that the police officer was not there for this matter at the time. He doesn't understand how the officers were informed of the potential problem and the communication was not passed along to the proper channels.

Mrs. Bataglia was concerned with the "purple semi" driver and his poor driving and the potential for him to wreck and spill in their neighborhood.

Riedesel doesn't believe it is fair to the residents who are told to refer to the police department when they see violations, but then for the police department to mention that those things are not their job. He asked Mr. Hicks if he called the police and mentioned that a truck was not placard. Hicks did not call, he told the four officers that were there.

Mayor Grove used the example of someone reporting that Jeff Grove was speeding, but officers can not go to his house to issue him a speeding ticket.

Reidesel felt that the officers could have held that truck and got the right professionals over there to look at it.

Mayor reminded the audience that he told Mrs. Hicks that if there is any traffic down that road, which there may not be now, the trucks will be placarded and the city will make sure that officers are checking them.

Mrs. Dawn Hicks mentioned that there are records that the city should be able to go back to and look to see what this truck was carrying to Ottawa on this day and time.

Mayor said that moving forward the city will make sure it is not an issue.

Reidesel does believe that something could still be done later in regards to this truck not being placarded. He believes that this past issue still needs to be addressed, because this may continue on because this driver thinks it's ok and he's getting away with it. He hopes that in the future when he contacts the police department, that the proper people will be contacted if they can not help out with his concern.

#7 - Lisa Dyas - Zinc St. Resident

She first mentioned how frustrated she was because this "crap" was all over everything she owned. She has spent countless hours and days on the phone trying to contact the right people to take care of fixing or replacing these items. She then expressed her concern about the numbers that Brad presented and how he mentioned them to be "acceptable or near acceptable." However, she has a son who has one kidney, not a fully functioning kidney. She mentioned that something like this is an extra danger to him. Their yard was the first one done on the Superfund site, because the EPA found out about her son's medical condition and wasted no time. She understands that Mr. Brown states that those numbers are safe, but for someone with no medical condition. She unfortunately does not agree with Mr. Brown when he states that all the levels are safe.

Mayor Grove does believe that Mrs. Dyas should take the numbers from Mr. Brown's report to her medical professionals.

Dyas mentioned how upset she already is and her neighbors are with the EPA, and the job they did with their yards. She said the EPA did a "shit show" and destroyed her driveway. She does want to see her yard tested and at what point is it deemed safe for her child with half kidney function.

Mr. Brown mentioned to definitely connect with her medical professionals to get some input from them. He reminded her that they are engineers and scientists. He did say that the EPA levels

that have been established are very conservative. He stated that the levels that they found are roughly in the magnitude of 50% less than their cleanup level. He is unable to say whether or not those levels are acceptable for her or her son, however. Brown mentioned how eventually the chemicals are going to go away along with the grass very soon. It is however in the soil and he doesn't want to insinuate that anyone is going to be eating the dirt. But the levels are based on children playing in a playground and in the dirt. Brown also mentioned that pathways for exposure of this would be ingestion, inhalation, absorption through the skin of this chemical in the soil. Mr. Brown used asbestos as an example. Our schools and our institutions are full of asbestos. People are not breathing in those particles, because they are locked in building materials, pipe insulation, floor tile and such.

Mrs. Dyas mentioned her winter covering on her pool with sitting water and what the plan would be to take care of this.

Mr. Brown mentioned how this would be a perfect example where there is probably a higher concentration of potassium.

Mrs. Dyas mentioned how she will soon be complaining about a neighbor that has a lot of junk in their yard and water is pooling on all the items.

Bader did ask if the Dyas' did contact the US EPA yet in regards to this concern. She said that they have not yet.

Mr. McPhedran did state that they should also contact their healthcare professionals. He mentioned how Mr. Brown has the degrees to talk about the science behind this, but he does not want to give any false representations, especially to anyone's particular individual health risk.

Mrs. Dyas asked if she did speak with her medical professionals and they were concerned with the chemicals and the numbers reported back, who should she contact then with this concern.

Deputy Clerk Bader mentioned to then speak with her insurance company or even Carus. She would want to mention how this is unacceptable for her family and what they could do for her. He mentioned that this doesn't have to just come from Mrs. Dyas. If anyone feels that these levels are not appropriate to them, they could contact their insurance company and Carus and mention their concerns.

#8 - Pat Walters

She first thanked Mr Brown for the presentation. She mentioned how Mr. Brown is providing the city with the raw numbers, the residents are interpreting the numbers. The residents are being referred to a doctor who may or may not be an expert in toxicology. She is wondering if the city could ask Carus to provide a doctor, a toxicologist that could be made available to these neighbors that have specific questions.

Mr. Hicks mentioned that he had to call poison control. They referred him to a place in Chicago on South Halsted.

Mayor Grove believes that it would be a very fair request of Carus.

Mrs. Walters asked about the wider range of 60 to 3000.

Mr. Brown mentioned that this was based on data from the IEPA that they have tested all over the state. Mr. Brown spoke in regards to the background levels. The IEPA would have performed 1000s of tests all over the state of Illinois to establish what background levels are. These levels were divided up between metropolitan statistical areas and non metropolitan statistical areas. The background levels for potassium throughout the state of Illinois, went from 280 to 5600. The average background level for manganese was 61.5 to 3710. These numbers are not associated with safety. For manganese, they do have a limit of 1600. That is their residential ingestion remediation objective. The IEPA thinks that the level of 1600 milligrams per kilogram, that level or below, for manganese is safe in our soil.

Mrs. Walters mentioned that as a realtor there are disclosure questions about whether or not the house was ever a crack house. This question is asked because crack houses have elevated levels of toxins. She is concerned because people will not buy houses with elevated levels of toxins. She is wondering if there is some way that the EPA can narrow those numbers down to make it more realistic.

Mr. Brown mentioned that the 1600 number is a firm black and white limit. IEPA would say that if the levels are below 1600, and they were doing a remediation project, they consider that clean and acceptable. If it was above 1600, they would not consider that clean and acceptable.

Mrs. Walters asked who these numbers are "acceptable" for.

Mr. McPhedran stated that if one had specific items for concern, they may need to investigate individually. These ranges are coming from the IEPA. These are ranges that they theoretically use to determine whether or not to dig and if there is any concern about contamination and whether it is safe to the public. Mr. McPhedran mentioned that if one has concern further for your own particular health concern, they can invest and investigate more.

Mr. Brown did mention that if the city were to take their sample results to the IEPA and said that they want Carus to clean this stuff up. The IEPA is going to look at the results and say the numbers are less than their cleanup level, by about 50%.

Mr. McPhedran mentioned that the city hired their own independent scientists here to give the residents the benefit of the information and the raw data. The city can hopefully give some guidance on what one might want to check out further based on one's particular situation, which may require a combination of one's own scientist and own medical experts. If one feels that they have been wronged, one may then have a private cause of action against Carus.

Mrs. Walters still has questions in regards to the numbers. The particulates that Hicks collected were over 100,000, but then everything else registered at .08. She was unaware how one concentration all of a sudden becomes that concentration.

Mr. Brown stated that the particulates tested was the actual material that fell out of the sky. Once that material hits the ground, it is spread out, hits the soil, gets rained on and washes out.

Mrs. Walters then asked about if the cause of the fire remains undetermined, who will be paying the bills.

Mr. McPhedran stated that it depends what bills are being mentioned but as far as the cleanup bills and things of that nature that should be said, remain under investigation. The final determinations haven't been made yet.

Mrs. Walters believes it important that it gets determined as to the cause of the fire. She believes that most people that were on site, believed it to be determinable.

Mr. McPhedran stated that there are independent government agencies and the State Fire Marshall that are involved in this determination.

Mrs. Walters closed by saying that the people here tonight do believe in LaSalle, but they just want to know that the council does.

Mr. Dyas asked who would be paying for Mr. Brown's services. He does not know why Carus is not. Mayor Grove stated that the city is because he wants the residents to know how important it was to the city.

Mr. McPhedran stated that the city wanted to make the investment to protect the citizens and to take the extra step on their behalf. The City will be considering and investigating and possibly seeking remediation potentially from Carus. Mr. McPhedran also stated that the mayor and his administration has been trying to be sensitive to the concerns of the public residents to get an independent expert to get additional help or support.

Finance Director Duncan also pointed out that the city wanted Mr. Brown working for the city, not for Carus.

Mayor Grove mentioned that the city does believe in LaSalle and they will keep trying to prove that. He felt it was important to have Mr. Brown here and to get that information out as soon as possible and present it here tonight.

Mr. McPhedran stated how the city now has a 40 page report within a couple weeks. It may not answer all the questions. The residents have a lot more information than they had before this meeting. It will also be made public. The city is putting everything out there to the public. He

stated how the city is going to be transparent and help the public as much as they can.

Mrs. Walters stated that as a realtor, this has all been very helpful, because she does have to disclose anything that she is aware of. Lenders are not lending in that area and homeowners are getting 10s of \$1,000 less because of the last incident with this area.

Mrs. Bataglia asked if there is a study that can be done to show what was naturally occurring and what was elevated because of this.

Mayor Grove thought that by testing Miss Hicks' property since it hasn't been remediated yet and now test. That would give them a baseline to go off of.

Bataglia asked if there was a way to tell a difference in the product between what is organic and inorganic.

Brown mentioned that he is not the lab chemist and unsure how they break that down, but he can definitely try to track that down to get that answer. He did mention that in his report it did come back as total manganese.

#9 - Carol Williams - Ottawa Resident

She just wanted to mention to the city that she is very sorry to hear what everyone is going through. Her daughter works for Sierra Club and is also very concerned about the city and the residents. She was there tonight on her daughter's behalf to send their support. She is also concerned about hearing about how Ottawa's South Town Mall is potentially storing chemicals there.

#10 - Mike Bataglia - 1446 Porter Avenue

Mr. Battaglia is curious to get the inside of the gutters tested. He suggested washing off the roof and collecting the runoff from the gutter to test it.

Mr. Brown stated that he will talk to the city to figure out how to do this. He also thought of doing a wipe test on the inside of the gutters.

Mrs. Bataglia asked if the city would have a way to help the residents with pool covers and such, to remove it properly instead of having a yard potentially full of contaminants.

Deputy Clerk Bader asked if Mr. Brown could give the city a basis as to how much a half is and how much material that is theoretically.

Mr. Brown stated the IEPA limit for remediation is 1600, with the city's highest level being 955 and lowest one being down 543. He explained it by stating that 1600 was a full glass and the city is at 955, so the glass is half full so to speak. He also mentioned that it would take quite a bit to get up to the 1600. It would take a significant amount to get that up. He is not saying to do so, but he doesn't believe dumping the pool water cover would change it and make it over the

cleanup objective. Brown does believe that any collected water should be managed appropriately and it should be collected and could be tested, or it could be just collected and disposed of.

Mr. Hammers asked about what Carus is doing with their holding ponds. Bader mentioned that his understanding is that they're bringing a portable treatment to the lake and treating it there.

City Engineer Brown stated that it has not yet been finalized what they're doing with it, whether they're trucking or in tankers or their pretreatment. Brown mentioned that the plan may be to come in with a package pretreatment and treat the water. Test it and take whatever solid or sludge they get off to an environmental landfill. The water would be residential sewer quality and could then be dumped into the city sewer. They however can not dump it in until it reaches the pH levels and all the other levels it has to meet and then they would just truck the sludge off. All the water would be equivalent to residential sewage and wouldn't affect the city's plant.

A resident asked if it would be ok to drain their pools into the city sewer.

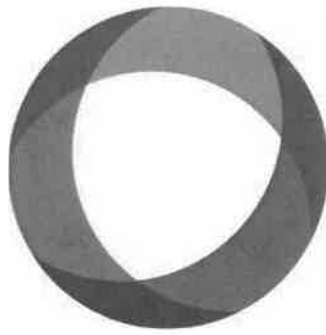
Brown mentioned that he is unable to answer that question right now because they had a sewer separation and it's a storm sewer.

Alderman Thompson suggested asking Carus to do all of the pools in the area. He thought it was worth the attempt for the residents to ask. He thought maybe Carus insurance would not think it would be a big deal to do for the residents.

Mayor Grove mentioned that the city does have insurance forms if anyone needs a copy. He reminded everyone to reach out to Brent in the next day or two with email addresses to get onto a group email with any information or updates.

Bader mentioned that there are a few copies of the report available, it is only the first 15 pages. There are some grammatical errors that the city will be changing and updating. He will be putting the full thing on the city's website and he will bring them to the neighborhood also.

Mayor Grove thanked everyone for being here tonight.



BROWNFIELD
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Soil & Water Sampling Report
City of LaSalle, IL
Carus Chemical Co. Fire Precipitation



Date: February 7, 2023
Brownfield Project No. 141-002

Prepared for:
City of LaSalle
745 Second Street
La Salle, IL 61301-2501

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1.0 Executive Summary

Brownfield Environmental Engineering Resources, LLC (Brownfield) has prepared this report to document the findings of the site assessment and sampling activities conducted within the City of LaSalle, IL in response to the fire that occurred on January 11, 2023 at the Carus chemical plant, located at 1500 8th Street in LaSalle, Illinois.

The intent of Brownfield's site assessment and sampling activities was to evaluate the potential environmental impacts and health risks from the fire precipitate and fallout on nearby homes and parks.

The Carus chemical plant manufactures potassium permanganate, an inorganic chemical compound widely utilized in the treatment of drinking water, wastewater, and industrial chemicals. The fire began from within the Carus chemical warehouse, and the cause of the fire is still undetermined.

The Brownfield site assessment and sampling activities included the collection of sixteen (16) topsoil samples, two (2) water samples, and one (1) sample of granular material from the residential areas of LaSalle, IL. Each sample was laboratory analyzed for manganese and potassium. Samples were collected from the residential areas of LaSalle, IL deemed to be most representative of the overall area affected by the fire precipitate. Sampling locations are illustrated in **Appendix A**.

The granular material and topsoil sampling results were compared to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO) Tier I Soil Remediation Objectives (SROs) and the "background level" concentrations of inorganic chemicals in soil throughout the State of Illinois. The water sampling results were compared to the IEPA TACO Class I & II Groundwater Remediation Objectives (GROs). Tables comparing the laboratory analytical results to the IEPA TACO SROs and GROs and statewide background concentration are included in **Appendix B**.

The levels of manganese and potassium in the topsoil and water samples collected were found to be substantially below the IEPA cleanup objectives for manganese and within the background range of manganese and potassium for soils in Illinois, outside of metropolitan statistical areas. Based on the concentrations of manganese and potassium below the IEPA SROs, Brownfield does not recommend additional testing of topsoil or surface water.

2.0 Brownfield Site Assessment and Sampling Activities

On January 20, 2023, Bradley A. Brown, P.E. with Brownfield performed reconnaissance and sampling activities within select residential neighborhoods of LaSalle, IL to evaluate the potential health risks and environmental impacts caused by the Carus fire. A single water sample and seven (7) topsoil samples were collected. The samples were submitted to a state-certified laboratory to be analyzed for manganese and potassium.

On January 24, 2023, Cole Cameron, EIT, Environmental Engineer with Brownfield performed reconnaissance and sampling activities within select residential neighborhoods of LaSalle, IL to further evaluate the potential health risks and environmental impacts caused by the Carus fire. Nine (9) topsoil samples, one (1) water sample, and one (1) sample of granular material were collected to be analyzed for manganese and potassium.

All samples were collected from within the residential areas of LaSalle, IL deemed to be most representative of the overall area affected by the fire precipitate. The Brownfield sampling locations are illustrated in **Appendix A** and a Photo Log documenting site conditions and sampling locations is included in **Appendix C**.

3.0 Analytical Results & Discussion

In total, sixteen (16) topsoil samples, two (2) water samples, and one (1) sample of granular material were submitted to First Environmental Laboratories, Inc. in Naperville, IL, a state-certified laboratory, for analysis of manganese and potassium. The laboratory analytical reports are included in **Appendix D**.

The topsoil sampling results were compared to the IEPA TACO SROs, specifically the residential ingestion and inhalation SROs, as well as the statewide background levels for metals outside of a metropolitan statistical area. The water sampling results were compared to the IEPA TACO Class I & II GROs.

Topsoil Sampling

Manganese and potassium were detected in all topsoil samples analyzed. However, none of the topsoil samples exhibited concentrations of manganese exceeding the IEPA SROs for residential ingestion or residential inhalation, and the detected levels of manganese were within the background levels as established by the IEPA.

The IEPA has not established remediation objectives for potassium and has noted, “this chemical is of no concern for soil ingestion and no data are available to assess other routes of exposure. There is no soil concentration limit established for this constituent.” However, levels of potassium in the topsoil samples collected were found to be within the IEPA-established range of background levels.

Water Sampling

Two water samples were collected to evaluate the potential impacts of fire precipitate fallout. One sample of roof runoff water was collected by a resident at 1409 Porter Street and provided to the Brownfield engineer for analysis. This sample is designated as “1409 Porter-2” and was found to contain 0.865 mg/L of manganese, which exceeds the Class I GRO of 0.15 mg/L. The sample contained 1,210 mg/L of potassium, for which the IEPA has not established GROs. The roof runoff sample likely contains elevated concentrations of manganese and potassium due to the fire precipitate and fallout and was compared to the IEPA GROs as a reference only.

The other water sample collected and analyzed for manganese and potassium was collected from the pond at Rotary Park and is designated as RP-1. The pond sample was found to contain 0.02 mg/L of manganese, which is well below the Class I and Class II GROs of 0.15 mg/L and 0.10 mg/L, respectively. The sample contained 6.4 mg/L of potassium.

Granular Material Sampling

The granular material sample of fire precipitate provided by the homeowner at 1409 Porter was analyzed for manganese and potassium with the following levels:

Manganese	276,000 mg/kg
Potassium	133,000 mg/kg

4.0 Findings & Recommendations

Topsoil Sampling

Based on the comparison of topsoil sample analytical results to the IEPA residential ingestion and inhalation remediation objectives for manganese, all topsoil samples collected and analyzed were found to be significantly under the SROs. The IEPA has not established remediation objectives for potassium and has noted, "this chemical is of no concern for soil ingestion and no data are available to assess other routes of exposure. There is no soil concentration limit established for this constituent."

Additionally, the levels of manganese and potassium were found to be within the background range for soils outside of metropolitan statistical areas.

The topsoil sample analytical results do not show elevated levels of manganese and potassium above IEPA SROs and background levels. Therefore, additional topsoil testing to assess the effects of the fire precipitate is not recommended at this time.

Water Sampling

Roof Water Runoff

The roof water runoff sample collected by the resident at 1409 Porter Street showed elevated levels of manganese and potassium, likely due to the fire precipitate and fallout. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recently set a drinking water Action Level for manganese of 0.5 mg/L to ensure protection against manganese toxicity. This Action Level is consistent with the World Health Organization guidance level for manganese in drinking water. The drinking water standard is being provided as a reference, as there are no regulatory exposure limits or levels of manganese in water for the absorption exposure pathway. Collected stormwater runoff in the affected area should be avoided and pets should not be allowed to drink the water.

Rotary Park Pond

The water sample collected from the pond at Rotary Park contained 0.02 mg/L of manganese, which is significantly below the Class I and Class II GROs, and the pond does not appear to be impacted by the fire precipitate with regards to elevated levels of manganese and potassium. No additional testing for manganese and potassium is recommended at this time.

However, we may want to consider testing the pond for phytoplankton and zooplankton, which make excellent indicators of environmental conditions and aquatic health within ponds because they are sensitive to changes in water quality. They respond to low dissolved oxygen levels, high nutrient levels, toxic contaminants, poor food quality or abundance, and predation.

The level of manganese at 0.02 mg/L is considered low, as the concentrations often become higher than that in deeper strata of lakes and supply reservoirs due to anaerobic respiration. Oxidized manganese is not soluble and would be expected to slowly settle out of the water column. As the sample wasn't collected immediately after the fire precipitation event, there could have been an initial toxicity event. It would be prudent to collect and examine a zooplankton sample, as zooplankton are used for toxicity testing. If live populations of zooplankton are present (cladocera, copepods, etc.) aquatic impacts are expected to be minimal. If no live zooplankton are present, it would suggest that an initial toxic event occurred, and a follow-up toxicity test would be necessary.

Other than the elevated levels of manganese and potassium in the collected roof runoff sample, the levels of manganese and potassium were not found to be elevated in the topsoil and pond water samples collected as a result of the recent fire at the Carus chemical plant.

Granular Material Sampling

The granular material testing of fire precipitate provided by the homeowner at 1409 Porter with levels of Manganese at 276,000 mg/kg and Potassium at 133,000 mg/kg are in line with the base chemical compounds found in Potassium Permanganate. Precautionary measures for handling or cleaning up the material should be implemented as outlined in the CAIROX® Potassium Permanganate Material Safety Data Sheet included in **Appendix E**. Safety measures include but are not limited to the use of rubber or plastic gloves, face shields, goggles, or safety glasses, and respiratory protection if conditions of exposure are above the Threshold Limit Value – Time Weighted Average (TLV-TWA).



Bradley A. Brown, P.E.
Principal



Cole Cameron, E.I.T
Environmental Engineer

APPENDIX A



BROWNFIELD
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

645 Third Street, Suite 250, Beloit, WI 53511
(608) 856-5434 | (815) 713-9165 | www.brownfieldusa.com

Sample Location Map

LOCATION:	La Salle, IL
CLIENT:	City of La Salle
PROJECT:	Carus Fire
DATE:	February 3, 2023



APPENDIX B

Table 1 (Page 1 of 2)
Soil Analytical Results Summary
Curtis Fire
LaSalle, IL

Sample ID	MP-1	MP-2	Fire Sta #2	HP-1	HP-2	RP-2	1448 Zinc	Residential Ingestion Remediation Objective	Residential Inhalation Remediation Objective	Metals Background Outside Metropolitan Statistical Area	Background	
Date Collected	1/20/2023	1/20/2023	1/20/2023	1/20/2023	1/20/2023	1/20/2023	1/20/2023				Range	Median

Parameters

Manganese (mg/kg)	543	525	676	588	587	875	722	1600	69000	630	61.5 - 3710	784
Potassium (mg/kg)	1430	1350	1060	1390	1370	2370	1490	-	-	1100	280 - 5600	1210

Indicates a concentration exceeds a residential remediation objective

Notes:

- MP-1: Matthiessen Park Playground
- MP-2: Matthiessen Park Baseball Diamond
- Fire Station No. 2, southwest corner of Sterling and Hwy 6
- HP-1: Hegeler Park, playground west
- HP-1: Hegeler Park, playground east
- RP-2: Rotary Park, south side of pond
- 1448 Zinc: 1448 Zinc Street

Table 1 (Page 2 of 2)
Soil Analytical Results Summary
Corus Fire
LaSalle, IL

Sample ID	1524 Zinc	1446 Porter	1409 Porter-3	1649 Zinc	1266 O'Connor	1618 Sharpe	1214 Porter	950 Grant-1	950 Grant-2	Residential Ingestion Remediation Objective	Residential Inhalation Remediation Objective	Metals background Outside Metropolitan Statistical Area	Background
Date Collected	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023	1/24/2023				Range
													Median

Parameters

Manganese (mg/kg)	885	493	248	514	697	794	672	812	955	1600	69000	630	61.5 - 3710
Potassium (mg/kg)	1550	1860	1900	2550	1750	2460	2340	1340	1530	-	-	1100	280 - 5600
													784
													1210

Indicates a concentration exceeds a residential remediation objective

Notes:

950 Grant-1: St. Mary's Park, Baseball Diamond
950 Grant-2: St. Mary's Park, Playground

Table 2 (Page 1 of 1)
 Water Analytical Results Summary
 Carus Fire
 LaSalle, IL

Sample ID	RP-1 (Pond)	1409 Porter-2 (Roof Runoff)	Class I Groundwater remediation Objectives	Class II Groundwater remediation Objectives
Date Collected	1/20/2023	1/24/2023		

Parameters

Manganese (mg/L)	0.02	0.865	0.15	10
Potassium (mg/L)	6.4	1210	-	-

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Indicates a concentration exceeds a groundwater remediation objective

Notes:

RP-1: Rotary Park Pond Sample
 1409 Porter-2: Roof Runoff Provided by Resident

APPENDIX C

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 1

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1041

Location: Matthiessen Park

Direction: North

Description: Soil sample location at
playground



Photo No. 2

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1044

Location: Matthiessen Park

Direction: North

Description: Soil sample location at
ballfield first base line.
Facing North.

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 3

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1049

Location: Matthiessen Park

Direction: Northeast

Description: Matthiessen Park entrance



Photo No. 4

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1222

Location: SW Quadrant of intersection between Highway 6 and Sterling Street.

Direction: Southwest

Description: Location of soil sample Fire Sta. #2

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 5

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1232

Location: 1448 Zinc Street

Direction: East

Description: Location of soil sample
1448 Zinc



Photo No. 6

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1245

Location: Hegeler Park

Direction: South

Description: West playground,
Location of soil sample
HP-1

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 7

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1247

Location: Hegeler Park

Direction South

Description: East playground, Location
of soil sample HP-2



Photo No. 8

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1330

Location: Rotary Park Pond

Direction: Northwest

Description: Location of water sample
RP-1

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 9

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1331

Location: Rotary Park

Direction: South

Description: Location of sample RP-2



Photo No. 10

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1331

Location: Rotary Park

Direction: N/A

Description: Brown specks appear to be MnO₂ on pond rip rap.



Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 11

Date: 1-20-2023

Time: 1331

Location: Rotary Park

Direction: N/A

Description: Brown specks on curb
appear to be MnO₂.



Photo No. 12

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1340

Location: 1524 Zinc Street

Direction: East

Description: Location of soil sample
1524 Zinc

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 13

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1351

Location: 1466 Porter Avenue

Direction: Southwest

Description: Location of soil sample
1466 Porter



Photo No. 14

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1423

Location: 1409 Porter Avenue

Direction: East

Description: Water sample 1409
Porter – 2 provided by
resident

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 15

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1424

Location: 1409 Porter Avenue

Direction: West

Description: Location of soil sample
1409 Porter - 3



Photo No. 16

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1433

Location: 1649 Zinc Street

Direction: West

Description: Location of soil sample
1649 Porter

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 17

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1442

Location: 1266 O'Connor Avenue

Direction: Southeast

Description: Location of soil sample
1266 O'Connor



Photo No. 18

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1451

Location: 1618 Laharpe Street

Direction: East

Description: Location of soil sample
1618 Laharpe

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 19

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1501

Location: 1214 Porter Avenue

Direction: South

Description: Location of soil sample
1214 Porter



Photo No. 20

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1513

Location: 950 Grant Avenue

Direction: Northwest

Description: Location of soil sample
950 Grant - 1

Project #:	141-002
Client:	City of La Salle
Address:	La Salle, IL 61301



Photo No. 21

Date: January 24, 2023

Time: 1517

Location: 950 Grant Avenue

Direction: South

Description: Location of soil sample
950 Grant - 2